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ever, that the view of the segregation of Japanese pupils in San Francisco schools In behalf of the decent public, and with all the respect due to the bench in general under a law of the State of California and in particular, we venture to conthat may be taken by the Mikado's well gratulate and thank the honorable Jusinformed advisers is one thing, while the tice presiding at the Thaw trial for the view of the incident that may be and order which excluded the comic draughtsprobably is taken by the mass of the men and caricaturists yesterday from Japanese population is another. It was the court room where a man is on trial with no little difficulty that the Japanese for his life. It was time for such an Government quieted the opposition to the assertion of the dignity of judicial proc-Peace of Portsmouth expressed by veheess. No right of a free press is threatment popular demonstrations and known ened, and no reputable newspaper is to have been shared by many officers, if hampered in the exercise of any proper not also by some influential Generals, of the army in the field. Of the Treaty of function by the suppression of the scan-Portsmouth the Mikado's subjects as a dalous state of things to which THE SUN referred on Wednesday. This salutary whole have never approved, though measure of initiative on the part of Justhey have been persuaded to submit to tice FITZGERALD ought to be an example it. They do not thank the United States to presiding Judges in criminal courts for having promoted that transaction and for having applied a good deal of throughout the country, and thus a step moral pressure for the purpose. They toward a general reform. hold that, thanks largely to the United States, they were robbed of a great An Unrighteous Attack. opportunity to drive the Russians from The Hon. THOMAS H. CARTER of Mon-Manchuria and the whole region east of

on Wednesday last in an attempt to show that ETHAN ALLEN HITCHCOCK is not the honest and faithful public servant that he is generally believed to be. Because Secretary HITCHCOCK has been both faithful and fearless in the performance of his duty Senator CARTER appears with a charge of injustice and oppression. It is difficult to understand a mind which discerns such offensiveness in strict fidelity in the public service. Mr. CAR-TER says: "It will appear from a critical analysis of the

figures and the facts that not to exceed one-half of 1 per cent. of the final homestead entries, less than 1 per cent. of the final desert land entries, less than one-half of 1 per cent. of the final timber and stone entries, and less than I per cent, of the final coal entries, are found to be fraudulent, and the percentage of mineral entries tainted with fraud is small indeed. Taking the whole aggregate of percentage together and figuring out from these percentages the average, we will find that less than ope final entry of public land out of every hundred has been found in all the years to be subject t cancellation on account of fraud, default or delin quency of any kind. As to the homestead settlers there is but one delinquent substantially in every 300 final entrymen."

It is that 1 per cent. and that one-half of 1 per cent. of lawbreakers that the Secretary has pursued with a vigor that has commanded the respect and the approval of the honest men of the coun-The logic of Mr. CARTER's argument would suggest the removal from the statute books of most of the criminal laws of the country. Are 1 per cent. of people thieves? Are one-half of per cent. murderers? Does the effort to apprehend thieves and murderers insult the honest people of the land? From Senator CARTER'S point of view Mr. HITCHCOCK's relentless pursuit of grafters, land grabbers, conspirators and looters of the public domain is an unjust and indefensible reflection upon the character of "fifteen millions of people inhabiting fourteen States and three Territories."

We don't see the matter in any such light, and we doubt very much whether any one else will look upon it that way.

Japan and the United States.

It seems to have been an interesting conference that was held on January 30 in the White House between President ROOSEVELT, Secretary ROOT, Secretary METCALF and all the members of the California delegation in Congress. The purpose of the conference has not been disclosed, but may be guessed from the fact that one outcome of it was a telegraphed request to the President of the San Francisco Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to come to Washington for the purpose of discussing the segregation of Japanese pupils with the California delegation in Congress and with the President and the Secretary of State. We are probably not wrong in connecting this incident with the telegram sent on January 29 from Tokio announcing that Viscount HAYASHI, the Mikado's Foreign Minister, had expressed in the Japanese House of Representatives a belief that the right of Japanese pupils to attend any public schools in San Francisco to which the children of other foreigners are admitted would be eventually conceded, but that he had added that "in the event of an unfavorable decision the anti-Japanese movement in California would be considered to represent the opinion of the whole United States, which would

require diplomatic adjustment." It is not to be presumed that Japanese statesmen, when the limitations of our Federal organic law should be brought to their attention, would hold our Federal Executive responsible for a decision, rendered by a Federal subordinate court and confirmed by the United States Supreme Court, that the treaty making power vested in our President and Senate does not confer the right to exercise or suspend powers which under the Tenth Amendment of our Constitution are "reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." The Mikado's advisers, as they have shown repeatedly, are quite as competent and as apt as were the advisers of the Italian sovereign, when Italians were lynched in Louisiana, to recognize the constitutional boundaries beyond which, in its relation to the governments of the constituent States, the executive department of our Federal administration cannot go. They might

he United States Suprems Court; but, the definition once made, they would accept it as respectfully as would the Ministers of Great Britain, France or Germany, it will be remembered, far from resenting the known unwillingness of our Senate to ratify a treaty of reciprocity, continues to give us gratuitously the advantages of her minimum tariff. There is no reason to believe that the Mikado's constitutional advisers, or the so-called "Elder Statesmen," to whose counsel in extreme emergencies he has recourse, are less well disposed to the United States than is the German Emperor. Indeed, there are some reasons why their attitude should be more cordial. The Germans notoriously sympathized with Russia in the late Far Eastern war, and the opposite sentiment of the American people cannot have been marked with satisfaction in Berlin. The fact should be kept in mind, how-

Lake Baikal. They have been ever

since in a sensitive and susceptible state

of mind, so far as our Government is

concerned, inclined to magnify the im-

portance and misinterpret the motives of

an incident which under other circum-

stances they might have dismissed as

Japanese statesmen have to reckon

with this condition of public feeling, and

this undoubtedly is the reason why Vis-

count HAYASHI said that in the event

of a decision unfavorable to Japanese

pupils in San Francisco the anti-Japanese

movement in California would require

diplomatic adjustment. Such adjust-

ment is not at all impracticable and is

now probably under way. The Tokio

Government has it in its power to stop

or signally abate the anti-Japanese

movement in California by regulations

that will prevent any further inflow of

Japanese into the Pacific States. This

it could effect by prohibiting any further

emigration to Hawaii, whence Japanese

subjects have been continually trans-

ferred to our Pacific coast. We have

reason to believe that the Tokio Govern-

ment has offered to take this very step,

provided our Federal Administration

can, by its moral influence, bring about

a withdrawal or suspension of the ob-

noxious order segregating Japanese

school children in San Francisco. If

such an offer has been made, it was

made, of course, through Viscount

the minds of his countrymen for it when

With so much good feeling and good

sense on the part of both Governments

concerned, an amicable solution of the

San Francisco school problem might

from the outset have been counted on

Perhaps the surprise and chagrin of

the Adjutant-General over the discovery

that the Commander in Chief of the

State's military and naval forces intends

to be something more than a rubber

stamp in the administration of their

affairs is not to be wondered at. The

attaching of "By command of the Gov-

ernor" to documents originating in this

department had come to be a piece of

empty routine when Mr. Hughes took

the oath of office. The five words that

make an order from headquarters effec-

The revocation of the order accepting

Captain Louis Wender's resignation

indicates that a new significance will

belong hereafter to the papers in which

this phrase appears. There is prom-

ise that the Governor, for two years at

least, will know what is done under his

sign and seal in the Guard. Such a

change in conditions is not likely to be

Nor is the active militia the only enter-

prise supported by the State in which

subordinates have wielded supreme

power without "bothering" their supe-

rior officers. There is room for an anti-

rubber stamp Governor in several other

The Too Free Circulation of Dyna-

A few years ago Dr. Thomas M.

CHATARD of Washington addressed the

local association of chemists, and took

for his text the growing peril of dyna-

mite and other high explosives. He

pointed out the increasing frequency

of the employment of these homicidal

forces for purposes of private assassi-

nation and social calamity. He showed

that this "education" of which we hear

so much in the way of honest praise has

put it in the power of every crazy mal-

content and agitator to wreak his ven-

geance on society. Almost anybody

with a modest smattering of chemistry

can construct a bomb capable of infinite

mischief, and experience has taught us

that this knowledge and this opportunity

have compassed ends of inconceivable

abomination. Dr. CHATARD's peroration

consisted of a plea for legislation which

would circumscribe the employment of

these murderous agencies by making it

a felony for unauthorized persons to

Why not? We regulate or undertake

to regulate the use of far less dangerous

departments of State administration.

unwholesome.

tive were at the service of any clerk.

without ceremony or restriction.

Not a Rubber Stamp.

adjustment might be needful.

with confidence.

trivial.

form of high explosive. We are making laws about beef, sausage, canned foods, railroads, and all the rest of it. Why not take five minutes off and put a few obstacles in the path of assassins and assorted criminals?

Mr. Hale and Mr. Beveridge.

on. Why, then, if we may enact laws

to protect the individual against him-

self, may we not endeavor to limit the

activities of the assassin and the anar-

chist? Dr. CHATARD, recognizing the

practical and useful functions of dyna-

mite, proposed to authorize its em-

ployment upon a perfectly liberal and

intelligent plan. He contemplated no

restriction that would hamper industry

orscience; but he suggested an arrange-

ment whereby its abuse might be ren-

dered virtually impossible, and indi-

cated a system of legislation which

intelligently enforced, would eliminate

a terror of rapidly increasing dimen-

sions and at the same time intervene

between our civilization and its ene-

mies. His idea was to license pur-

veyors under heavy bonds and after

searching inquiry, and to attach the

severest penalty to the unwarranted

possessors of dynamite or any other

The Hon. EUGENE HALE seems to have the boy orator of Indiana on his nerves. Our guess is, however, that Mr. HALE rather enjoys the Beveridge brand of language when he is not too busy with important affairs. He would not object to BEVERIDGE, for example, if that accomplished troubadour could be brought in after dinner to speed the joyous process of digestion with the melting influence of music. There is a time for everything, it has been said; doubtless in Mr. HALE's philosophy the time for BEVERIDGE is not when serious and useful measures are afoot.

It is all a question of temperament. Mr. HALE has charge of the appropriation bills in the Senate, and he seeks to expedite them while as yet there may be opportunity for at least a show of intelligent deliberation. Mr. BEVERIDGE is responsible only to genius and to art. He was made to sport in the sunshine's golden braids, to astound the nightingale and to inebriate Senate stenographers with almost intolerable melody The Maine temperament leads on to ugly toil when there is real work to do. The Indiana temperament beckons you with flowery fields and amorous cavortings, with nods and wreathed smiles and the moving invitations of Elysian delights. Mr. HALE wants to do things; Mr. BEV-ERIDGE prefers to smack the lyre and hypnotize the animals. The clash was logical, and the consequence can be foretold with ease. This is a prosaic day and generation.

But there must be some sort of way to an adjustment. It cannot be impossible to give Senator HALE time enough to put through the appropriation bills which, among other things, provide for the salary and perquisites of the Indiana minstrel. Neither is there any insurmountable reason why Senator BEVERIDGE's song should be stifled in midmusic, so to speak, by the Bœotian throatlatch of the practical. The Maine statesman may be permitted to complete his contract with the country and thereby grease the wheels of Government; but why may not the Indiana songbird come in later-at a moment when we need HAYASHI, and he was simply preparing | luxurious relaxation—and swell his tuneful throat and warble for our happiness and rest? It is complained that he obscures the controversy over child labor, and some evil persons do allege that the recorded debates in the Senate convict him of inaccuracy and great destitution in respect of understanding. But what of that? BEVERIDGE sings as sweetly to one keynote as to another. In his case it isn't the motif, it is the treatment. Great maestros have illustrated the invasion of Russia by Napoleon when the music applied equally to a plate of apples or the noise of a railway train passing through some stony cut. BEVERIDGE whacks his tuning fork on child labor, and the answering gush can be utilized as well for dreams of war as for a sum-

mons to the Court of Love. Perhaps it will be wise to let Senator HALE fulfil his somewhat unromantic duty of setting the Government on its feet. We can revel in the melody of our Orpheus later on-when it is all to the good and doesn't cost a cent.

San Francisco Insurance Settlements. In the House of Representatives on January 25 Mr. Julius Kahn of California furnished for publication in the Congressional Record, as an example and warning, a statement in detail of the payments for losses made by fire insurance companies after the earthquake and conflagration at San Francisco in April, 1906, and of the bad faith of other companies. Mr. Kahn's purpose was a public spirited one, to single out the weaklings and post the welchers, but in the columns of the Congressional Record his object lesson will have a limited circulation, and rumor is likely to magnify

the list of cripples and defaulters. When we consider that the disaster at San Francisco was the most tremendous in impairment and obliteration of values that ever occurred in history-the estimated loss was \$350,000,000-and that the question of liability was complicated by conditions not considered in most of the insurance policies, it must be granted that most of the companies behaved very well, and some of them handsomely, in making settlements. The list of welchers was very small, confined to a foreign company here and there; and it is gratifying to know that judicial and diplomatic pressure in the countries of their origin is likely to force a measure of settlement from them. Some American companies, the number of which is also small, have not yet liquidated, but in every case there is a prospect of payment in part. The English companies came out of the ordeal with credit and distinction, vying with the best American companies in paying dollar for dollar and not scrutinizing the conditions in the bond narrowly. Among the weaker companies there were instances of fine rallies by stockholders to meet the emergency, as well as some cases of

losers, but were accepted by them, it must be borne in mind that the companies themselves were trying to save something from the wreck, and their officers had to face alarmed stockholders as well as the insured, some of whom, according to the report of Professor A. W WHITNEY to the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, took advantage of the loss of documentary evidence by fire to swell their claims. Some of the "six bit" companies, a name given to those that favored a straight, horizontal cut of 25 per cent. in valid claims, finally succumbed to public opinion and paid in full. There is no better authority than Professor WHITNEY upon the conduct of the insurance companies involved, and this is his judgment:

" Unquestionably, taken all in all, the companie have done remarkably well. An immense sum of money has been paid into this city, a far larger sum than companies have ever been called upor to pay at one time before. In spite of the earth quake, in spite of the nearness in time of the Balti nore and Toronto conflagrations, the companies will finally have paid undoubtedly in the neighbor hood of 80 per cent. of the amount of insurance involved. At Chicago there was 50 per cent. paid at Baltimore 90 per cent. The remarkable differ ence between the showing made by the companies at San Francisco and at Chicago, where there were forty-six that falled, shows the great progress that has been made in thirty-five years in legitimate underwriting."

The lessons of the San Francisco disaster will be embodied in remedial legislation that will benefit the companies and add to the protection of the insured. It is reasonable that the cost to him should be greater after such a staggering blow to the companies, but the fact that most of them survived it and that some of them were not seriously affected by it is an assurance that the business is on a stable basis which nothing but bad management can disturb in normal times.

The Hon. JOHN POWERS, a famous statesman of Chicago, predicts the renomination of Mayor DUNNE. Will the Mayor be reelected? That is another story: " He thinks he can, and we are willing to give

This is genuine Democratic doctrine. It was applied to Mr. BRYAN in 1900 and may be applied to him again in 1908. Habit is everything. The Democrats are so used to defeat that they have come to like it.

This cry to the Prisoner on the Rock emitted by the Trenton Times:

" If Mr. DRYDEN can tell the Republican confer nce next week what secret and mysterious infunce is backing the fight being made against his reelection he may be able to head it off.

He can. He will. Not without loud outcry will this candid public servant submit to be slaughtered by those malign "corporate interests" which he has always resisted so heroically.

The Hon. BOB TAYLOB of Tennessee and Fiddleria has not begun his first term in the Senate yet, but he is already planning for reelection: " All I ask is that they will give me the same

The same jury is composed of everybody in Tennessee with ears for music, with a laugh for jokes, with a full house of tears for Bon's pathetic anecdotes. Bon is sure to have the same jury, but will he be the

same BoB? Will he be able to gush and caper and scrape the strings carelessly? Or will the heavy and the weary weight of Senatorial dignity make his spirits sag? This seems certain: In two years more of FAIRBANKS either BOB will have melancholia or the Skyscraper will whistle in the Senate Chamber.

The voice of Dr. HARVEY W. WILEY the House Committee on Agriculture: " Milk begins to deteriorate right away. Eggs also begin to deteriorate immediately."

This must be looked to. The Government will have to take charge of the cows and the hens. Eggs must be laid while you wait. Cows must be milked in sight of the people. A pure food law is very well, but a fresh food law is needed.

That Wilde-Strauss operatic drama is pro-nounced "Salohmay," with the accent on the second syllable.—Utica Heraid-Dispatch. Information that comes too late to save the Oneida Reservation, whose poets have already rallied to the support of "home" against a dissyllabic "Salome" with the accent on the final syllable.

Thus does science paste a new testimonia on the tireless BEVERIDGE; and thus is that inexorable multiphone the father of the voices and the health of millions.

Only Frenchmen eat frogs' legs.—The Hon. SOUTH TRIMBLE, M. C., of Kentucky. This opinion would be indorsed heartily by Squire WESTERN.

Professor DUDLEY of Vanderbilt University makes a hurry call for Mr. ROOSEVELT'S commanding interference to regulate college athletics. He says that Mr. ROOSEVELT "is the man by virtue of his force of character, strength of intelligence and official position" to make college athletics clean, square and honorable, to eliminate "dirty players," graft, summer ball playing by collegians and so on. Thereby the President would "contribute substantially to the moral welfare of American youth and elevate the plane of American sportsmanship." If there is anything more momentous, of vaster import to the present and the future, than college sports, can any good man name it? They are education, fame, money. They are the training school for the Cabinet. They are the surest approach to the presence chamber and the throne. We expect to see public life restricted to the athletic graduates. Mr. ROOSEVELT'S reluctance to meddle is known, but scruples must vanish when a great industry needs to be purified and reformed. Cannot an Interstate and Intercollegiate Regulation bill be passed?

It is reported * at Mr. ROOSEVELT is to appoint a colored citizen Surveyor of the Port of Cincinnati, the site of the Hon. JOSEPH BENSON FORAKER. The appointment is variously regarded as a bit of "practical irony," "getting even with FCRAKER," and so forth.

These are curious views. Surely a Pros ident of Mr. ROOSEVELT'S high ethical standards doesn't make appointments for reasons of revenge or jocosity. There are often good reasons against the appointment of colored men to important Federal office in the South. If such appointments are to be made they should be made in the

Mr. FORAKER has not introduced the race question into the Brownsville discussion. If his course in the matter has been commended by colored citizens, and political motives have been ascribed, what is that to "cold feet." In judging individual cases Mr. ROOSEVELT, who is not a candidate for desire to see those boundaries defined by forces-liquor, opium, cocaine and so of settlement which did not suit the reelection? Did anybody ever suspect him.

straightforward, simple and ltruistic, of "playing politics

gation the other day that the bugler of "his regiment" had been an Italian, its color bearer a Jew. All nationalities looked alike to him. Those warriors had been elected solely because of their ability to

This is the right view to take of the reported appointment of the Hon. RALPH TYLES of Columbus to be Surveyor of the Port of Cincinnati. He is able to "stand fire," even if Senator TILLMAN fires it.

Senator ISIDOB RAYNER'S speech in the Senate on Executive expansion yesterday merits the attention of the judicious, not as a Democratic attack upon the present Republican Chief Magistrate of the United States, but as a somewhat vividly illustrated exposition of tendencies which patriotic Democrats and Republicans alike should deplore. It almost deserves to be printed as a campaign document by both parties in the coming Presidential election.

By raising the "dead line," or age limit to ntrance into its employment, from 35 to 45, the Pennsylvania Railroad does a mighty sensible and encouraging thing. The infant phenomenons, marvellous boys and young Captains of Industry have become a weariness. If life is growing longer it is the more foolish to put men on the blacklist just as they have really shed their milk teeth. If men are "old" at 35, what is to be done with a large part of the race? Should it be eaten, in the ancient New Zealand fashion, or supported by the young? Veal is excellent, but it is possible to ha too much of it.

The Hon. HOKE SMITH sounds to the railoads of Georgia his terrible approach: "Compared with the fight I shall make after my n next June, the recent gubernatorial campaign will seem like a sweet May shower beside

Mr. Smith is a large statesman, and large promises befit him. Besides, accuracy cannot be expected from a person who describes as "a sweet May shower" the most mephitic campaign known to Georgia, and one that lingers still in the nostrils of mankind.

THE SAD STATE OF THE CHURCH OF SAN CLEMENTE.

From the Rome correspondence of the London Morning Post.

All visitors to the Eternal City know Sar Clemente-the beautiful basilica not far from the Colosseum, whose curious frescoes are among the sights of Rome, whose equally curious history goes back to the early days of Christianity, when Clement was accounted among the "fellow laborers" of St. Paul and rose to be the third successor of St. Peter But for more than thirty years no one has set foot in the oldest and lowest part of the building, the portion which lies beneath the two successive churches. Among the last persons who descended into that now impenetrable recess were King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra, then Prince and Princess of Wales, whose visit is commemorated by two photographs, one presented by them and dated 1872, the other representing the late Father Mullooly in the act of showing them the place. Shortly afterward water began to enter the chambers at the base of San Clemente. The municipal drainage scheme for the adjacent Via di San Giovanni had faile to take into account the fact that the lowest part of that edifice lay at a considerable dis-tance beneath the level of the drain pipes Accordingly the water rapidly covered asement, as it also covered the substructures of the low lying Colosseum, and while the latter was speedily drained, the basilica has ever since remained standing in several feet of water, more in winter, less in the dry sum-

Now, at last, a scheme has been prepared by C. A. Mills, an English gentleman resident in Rome, for the drainage of the church at a cost of about £1,500 by means of pipes laid somethirty or forty feet below the road and connecting with the municipal drainage near the Colosseum. The municipality has approved the scheme; two committees, one of residents in Rome, the other of various distinguished persons in the British Empire and America, have been formed, and people of all religious opinions have consented to join in a work which promises to be of the greatest archeological importance

The Pope has bestowed a warm encomium on this proposal to rescue the substructures of the church from destruction—for they are of tufa and are being gradually affected by the action of the water-and to make the orators and house of the Saint once more accessible to the public. Anglicans and others are anxious for the recovery of this valuable fragment of Early Christian life and for the preservation of the frescoes in the second church, on which the damp is having a gradual but fatal influence. Archæologists are desirous of seeing what King Edward VII. was almost the last to see-the now submerged Temple of Mithras, established perhaps in the desecrated oratory of Clement after his exile, a shrine larger than that at Ostia, and one which still has the altar and the statue of the god in their original places, just as they were discovered by the late Father Mullooly in 1860. There, too, are portions of an ancient wall, possibly that of Servius Tullius, one of whose gates, the Porta Querquetulana, mentioned by the Elder Pliny, is known to have been situated between the Esquiline and the Coelian, of which Querquetulanus was an older name. Thus the Rome of the Kings and the Emperors, the worship of Christ and the cult of Mithras, the house of the noble Clement and the oratory where he prayed after his conversion all meet at this subterranean spot.

The historic importance of San Clement has been further increased by Mgr. Wilpert's recent investigations of the frescoes of the second church. That learned scholar has shown in a pamphlet published three months ago that Father Mullooly's surmises as to the subjects of some of the dim paintings on the walls were inaccurate. He believes, for example, that in the two frescoes which have hitherto been supposed to represent the martyrdom of St. Catherine and the Council which Pope Zosimus held in this church in 417 for the condemnation of the Pelagian heresy we have two-thirds of a magnificent Last Judgment, dating from the middle of the ninth century, and therefore two centuries older than the oldest known picture of that scene, that which is preserved on the island of Reichenau, in the Lake of Constance. Mgr. Wilpert asks: Who was the author of this fresco, and what did he copy One may reply: May he not have been the famous Methodios, one of the two apostles of the Bulgarians, who, together with his companion Cyril, came to Rome at that very period, bearing the relics of San Clemente exiled and martyred seven centuries earlier by Trajan on the shores of the stormy Euxine? We know that Methodios converted Prince Boris of Bulgaria to Christianity by means of a most realistic picture of the Day of Judgment which he set before the eyes of the terrified monarch. Is it not conceivable that this was the model and its artist the painter of the Last Judgment still to be seen at San Clemente? While San Clemente is closely connected with the conversion of the Bulgarians-an event which profoundly ences to this hour the politics of the Balkan Peninsula—it is also intimately associated with Ireland. When in 1873 the law for the suppression of religious houses passed the Italian Parliament the Irish Dominicans of San Clemente were able to show that they had been in possession of that edifice, together with San Sisto on the Via Appla, since the reign of Charles II. Accordingly San Clemente was spared and a genial Irishman is still its rector.

A Perished Shade. Though they say that bargain hunters In the Wall Street whirls are tossed, We can never match the color Of the money we have lost

THE THEATRE "SPEC." Defence of the Hawker of

the Sidewalk

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The although he has made a fair living in the siness, has been reading in the newspap attacks on sidewalk ticket speculators and has not seen any one taking up their end of it. Most of these attacks urge the powers that rule to revoke the speculators' licenses on the ground that they are a nuisance. assert that if the licenses are revoked it will cause a bigger nulsance than exists at present, unless the selling of tickets in hotels newsstands and cigar stores is also abolished, because many of the present ticket specuwould purchase theatre tickets for any big that might be presented here an would be selling them on the sly. They would also rent space in the cigar stands and drug stores in the vicinity of the success and have runners informing would-be

could be purchased. Should the authorities put out of business the theatre ticket shops in the hotels, &c. (although this will never occur, as there is too much of the do-re-mi back of them) it would knock out another branch of the ticke speculating business, the cut rate shops in the cigar stores of the Tenderloin. By do-

where they could purchase their tickets. Very likely they would have sandwich men

with signs on their backs telling where tickets

the cigar stores of the Tenderion. By doing so it would deprive many a poor person
of the opportunity of enjoying a pleasant
evening on short coin.

These brokers work opposite to the sidewalk speculators and enter but little into
competition with the hawkers in front of the
theatres. They do not carry in stock tickets
for shows that are big hits, but rather for
plays of the medicore kind or for the dying
days of extended runs. of the mediocre kind of extended runs. It is regulated by the regulated by the way.

days of extended runs.

This ticket speculation business is a creation of conditions. It is regulated by the law of supply and demand. If there was not a demand it would not last a day. I was over in Philadelphia recently doing a little brokerage business with tickets at the Murphy-Corbett boxing contest and there were as many as 200 men selling tickets. When it began to look as if they were going to lose money they ran around like mad, whereas if there was a high license there would not have been so many people selling the tickets.

I have heard the question asked many times: How is it that the sidewalk man always is in possession of good seats? The

I have heard the question asked many times: How is it that the sidewalk man always is in possession of good seats? The answer is simple. As he caters only to those who can afford to pay the price—he must have the best seats and he makes it his business to get them, even though he himself must pay a premium for them. The howl of indignation against the speculators does not come from the persons he caters to, but from the "heels," who, like Hogan's goat, are trying to but in while they do not belong. The theatre is essentially a luxury—a rich man's luxury—and the speculator, knowing that, feels secure in his position, and all the clamor and agitation in the world won't drive him away from the theatre as long as he finds a healthy demand for his goods.

Frequently we read interviews with managers in which they denounce the ticket speculators, but in tossing their "con" they never say anything of the theatre tickets sold in the hotels, &c., simply from the fact that most all prominent hotels have a reservation of the choice seats of every big success that is presented in New York. It is also an open secret that the theatres get at least 25 cents premium on every ticket that these agents sell for them.

There are theatres that sell fickets that do not have the price printed on them. Why, it is a common occurrence for a certain theatre in this city to have its prices fluctuate in

premium on every texet that these agents sell for them.

There are theatres that sell tickets that do not have the price printed on them. Why, it is a common occurrence for a certain theatre in this city to have its prices fluctuate in its box office; whenever it looks as though they will "turn 'em away" they increase the price accordingly.

We also see communications in which the writers say they cannot get at the box office seats any further front than the twelfth or fifteenth row and, they would lead you to believe it is the fault of the sidewalk speculator, when in reality the seats they desire are in possession of the hotels and they want a premium of 50 cents to \$1.50 for each ticket. A speculator, as a rule, asks but 50 cents in advance of the theatre price, unless it is a really choice seat; then it is very likely that he purchased it at a hotel stand at an advanced price of from 50 cents to \$1.

If it is a bad night and the sidewalk man cannot sell his tickets he loses the premium and the principal both, while most of the hotel newsstands return all unsold tickets.

This speculating business gives good employment to from 100 to 150 persons. It would give more only for the silly squawks we read in the papers. When I went into the business three years ago there were not half the number of speculators there are now; neither did any one make a sufficient income to make a living out of it, other than the speculator. I saw that a person could derive a fine income by giving the speculators ample security and gilt edged reference, thereby securing their orders for all the tickets they could use from the different theatres at a small premium.

In inaugurating this new "digging" system I made a financial success by doing business on business principles and engaging bright young men by the season on a commission basis. Some of my "diggers" averaged \$10 a day all last season. However, these news-

I made a financial success by doing business on business principles and engaging bright young men by the season on a commission basis. Some of my "diggers" averaged \$10 a day all last season. However, these newspaper stories cut down their commissions, made them work harder and utilize more schemes, as people think these writeups are on the level. Why, even the managers are on the level. Why, even the managers are balking. My understudy now has trouble getting to some of them he has on his staff. The box office man is with the "spec" merely a piece of machinery—they go over his head. The manager is the main shaft.

A speculator with ten thousand or more commands a whole lot of respect around the business office of a theatre and many a one gets that amount in on a "bit." He gets closer than speaking distance to the manager, too. He will likely get his bundle on a silver salver, with a bouquet tied to it. There is a combination of three speculators, known as the "Big Store," who are there with the gold certificates. When they step around they can look the manager straight in the eye.

The opening of the Hippodrome resulted in the creeping into the business of a few "microbes," or dressed up hoodlums; also in increasing the number of speculators two-fold. This accounts for the number of rawls we hear of lately. The only way to disarm them and remedy the svills that now exist would be to increase the license fee to \$500 a year and thereby eliminate a let of riffress. The speculators are also "life savers" of many houses on opening nights. They buy out remaining seats that the hotels do not purchase, and if it is a "bloomer" they stand the brunt. Therefore the theatre managers have the "coarse notes," even though the public does not materialize.

Oftentimes people can be seen waiting around the entrance of the theatre managers bave the "coarse notes," even though the public does not materialize, of from people who know you will be informed that they are "bargain hunters" and frequently get a ticket in the centre, on

NEW YORK, January 31.

Observations of an Amateur Seismele
From the Chicago Evening Post,
What did I think of? Let me see:
The first dim thought that came to me
Was—Say: It's funny how it was.
I noticed first a little buzz,
And then the earth began to aquirm
And writhe and twist and coil around
Just like a waking woolly worm—
And then began to bounce and bound.
And then the floor was agitated,
The walls and chimneys oscillated,
And by some marvellous propulsion
The hills were shaken in convuision;
The sky commenced to jar and jiggie,
The streets began to warp and wiggle.

The hills were shaken in convuision:
The sky commenced to jar and Jiggie.
The streets began to warp and wiggle.
And down below with sudden thump
There was a jump
And things went bump!
Then all began to quake and quiver.
And everything to shake and ahiver;
My mind was full of consternation
With every hurrying vibration:
And then there was a roll and rumble
And things commenced to toss and tur
The fences all began to amble.
The distant trees were in a scramble;
Then down below there was a popping.
And all the world seemed to be droppin
It sank and sank, pell mell, pell meller.
Until it struck creation's ceilar.

And then it rose with rush and ripping.
With siam and slide and slap and slipping
With soamper, sooop and skim and skippin
With winding, grinding,
Rocking, shocking,
Yelling, smelling,
Tooting, shooting,
Scooting, hooting,
Bim! Bam!
Ker-alan!

Ker-slam;
And whanged and clanged against the sky,
And slid amid the stars so high,
And jarred and joited,
And rocked,
And rocked,
And knocked,
Fizzed,
Whizzed,
Sizzed.

Turned inside out,
And then it groaned and moaned and rattled
And all the inside outside battled—
And then it settled down to quiet,
Forgetting all its romp and riot,
And I hung on, clear out of breath,
Limp, weak and aimost
Scared

HAWAHAN LAND QUESTION.

Small Holdings Impracticable on Account of the Lack of Markets.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I have read with interest, if not edification, an article in TRE SUN of January 30 relating to the Hawaiian land question, apropos of the purchase of a small island of the group, called

Lanai, by a Mr. Gay.
I lived on the island four years, and what mowledge I have of the situation there is first hand. I am related to one of the four 'feudal families" that are said in the article to control the island of Kauai; so that I am not without interest in this matter. Still, what I have to say is, I believe, unprejudiced and founded on fact.

In regard to the settling of the Hawaiian Islands by small proprietors on farms to take the place of the large plantations, President Roosevelt has a certain vivid ideal in his mind, and sees a picture of the small American farmer dwelling in peace and piency under the shade of the spreading banana tree, and his small children being nourished by the milk of the tender cocoanut. To this ideal of his, reiterated constantly in his mes sages to Congress, the Hawaiian situation must be stretched to fit, no matter if condi-tions in a small, isolated and tropical country are exactly opposite to those found in the agricultural States of the Union.

The coffee industry was thoroughly tried on the small farmer scale on the island of Hawaii and failed. One insuperable obstacle to the success of the agricultural inis self-evident when we consider the isolation of the islands and the limited means of transportation. Also, it is to be remembered, the aggregate population is necessarily limited. or would be, and it is numbers that make a ocal market. There is no such "smiling, correspondent speaks of. It exists merely in his imagination. All the great plantations on the island of Hawaii, unless perhaps an exceptional few, are made productive only by elaborate systems of irrigation. The lands where these plantations are were formerly barren and unproductive until American capital and enterprise took hold of them and by means of irrigation and fertilization made them productive.

Behind the panoramic idea of "100,000 farm ers engaged in raising coffee, rubber, tobacco sisal, bananas, cassava and vanilla" I seem almost to discern the gliding figures of real estate operators and promoters.

I do not know that the small farmer idea has been so thoroughly tested in Hawaii as to be proved absolutely impracticable; but from an economic standpoint it does not appear feasible, and so far as it has been tried it has failed. But I can imagine no more promising field than tropical Hawaii for a promotion company that, we will say has done business in California, and designs to exploit the island for the benefit of the small farmer," who is to cultivate in ease and plenty the nutritive banana and theah, yes the "cassava and vanilla." But whom would he sell these delicacies? G. H. DE LA VERGNE

NEW YORK, January 31.

Sully's "Great Design" and Roosevelt. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your striking historical letter in THE SUN of Jan uary 30, showing that 300 years ago the great Prime Minister in France devised a parlia ment of nations for the promotion of peace, says: "The Storthing justly awarded the Nobel prize to Mr. Roosevelt as the greatest worker for peace in the year 1906. No man is better fitted than he by position, statesmanship and courage to initiate the 'design' in a manner and upon a plan fitted to the needs of the twentieth century.

One qualification is omitted-a belief that war is hell. But for this omission the appeal and tribute of "J. C. C." might be regarded as an example of the simplicity and credulity of a populace frantically hungering and thirsting to believe in somebody; but as "J. C. C." does not describe the President as a hater of war nor as a lover of peace, one so naive as he may seem. The \$40,000 Nobel prize having gone in a direction nowise related to peace, there is left to the adherents of peace recourse to that decoration as a nail wherewith they may fasten the Presiden

When the prize was awarded an eminent French publicist, Ernest-Charles, wrote in Gil Blas an article headed "Le Bluff Ameri cain," in which he says:

I cannot see at all under what pretext it has been given to him. The greatest glory of Rooseveli is to have been a Colonel and to have participated in the infinitely glorious war of the United States against Cuba. FI am well aware that this infinitely glorious war was a vaudeville war, but it was war all the same. Afterward Colonel Roosevelt became President. Never has the United States had such warlike aspirations as since the said Roose veit became President. He has developed furiously all the imperialist tendencies: and war, more or less near or distant, but certainly unjust, is one of this inevitable consequences of imperialism.

Undoubtedly Roosevelt has been able to utter

some pacifying words; but it is necessary to dis tinguish pacifying words from words that make for peace. Let us remark the facts-the act gravest dangers of war now existing in the world.

M. Ernest-Charles goes on to describe the prize as the latest victims of the "American bluff," but is doubtful whether the result will be good or evil. The probability is that the said administrators recognized the ambition and war enthusiasm of Mr. Roosevelt as clearly as the French publicist. Experienced statesmen outside of America are not likely to be deceived, whatever their pre-, by theatrical lions-now roaring frightfully, now roaring you "gently as any ucking dove"; they can well understand that the man who at Portsmouth impersonated the dove between exhausted antagonists where peace was a foregone conclusion might have prevented their war altogether had he really so desired. Mr. Roosevelt received the Nobel peace prize probably because the real workers for peace fear his military pride, his imperialist ambition, and wish if possible to hold him before mankind to the reputation he gained as a peace make conference the most eminent recipient of the prize is likely to receive a kind of applause different from that which will be accorded him at the Jamestown exposition amid the "splendors of war" (as the programme reads), illustrated on a gigantic scale under our Nobel President's patronage.

Wanted: A Boswell Expert.

NEW YORK, January 31.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Somewhere in "Boswell's Life of Johnson" an anecdote is told as illustrating Dr. Johnson's antipathy to lawyers.
As I remember the incident it was about as follows: A certain lawyer leaving the room in which eat Johnson, Boswell and others, some one turned to Johnson asking who the person was who had just "Sir, it does not bent me to speak ill of any man, but I believe he was an attorney

tation, and have searched Boswell's Life, but so far If any of the readers of THE SUN can enlighten me I shall be greatly obliged. CHARLTON YARNALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In to day's account of the dinner of the Kansas Society Mr. Eugene F. Ware is reported as having read his latest" poem which begins:

"Hour after hour the cards were fairly shuffle: And fairly dealt, but still I got no hand-This poem was tamillar to me at least ten years ago, and it does not seem probable that he has written no poetry since ther

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: With several inches of fee on a pond, does the water under the ice

continue to freeze when the temperature outside E. FRENCH. MIDDLETOWN, N. J., January 31.

"Feed the Brute." Mrs. Knicker-How do you get the money for a Mrs. Bocker-With a dress'dinner.

Teddy Bears. Enicker-What is a margin?

Booker-The missing part of a page of experience

have them in possession.

tana wasted some of the Senate's time